



Footnotes¹

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Librarians from Bulgaria and Iowa form lasting friendships while learning from each other

Five Bulgarian librarians were in Iowa from April 19 to May 21 to visit libraries through the American-Bulgarian Library Exchange (ABLE).

Some of the goals of ABLE are to help Bulgarian librarians learn about the roles of libraries in the United States, develop an understanding of community information centers, develop projects for partnering with libraries, improve computer skills and prepare to be advocates for libraries. They also taught Iowa librarians about Bulgaria. The visiting librarians were Galina Doycheva-Viktorova, Mariana Uzunova, Maya Petrova, Rayno Raynov, and Daniela Donova. Libraries that hosted the Bulgarian visitors were in Ames, Cedar Rapids, Newton, Pella and Sioux City.



Visiting the State Library are from left, Mariana, Rayno, Maya, State Librarian Mary Wegner, Daniela and Galina.



Vicki Myron and Daniela at the State Library

On May 10 and 11, the Bulgarian visitors attended classes at the State Library in Des Moines. Vicki Myron, Spencer Public Library, talked about gathering and organizing community information. Pat Coffie, Waverly Public Library, spoke about collaboration with community groups. Coffie and Mary Cameron, State Library, also talked about collaboration with groups that serve children. Gina Milsap, Ames Public Library, discussed working with government officials and Jan Kaiser, Des Moines Public Library, spoke about marketing the library. Karen Burns from the Southwest Iowa Library Service Area discussed library websites.

The Bulgarians also found time to discover Iowa. Different members of the group were able to visit a Native American settlement, attend a gospel church, ride a horse and motorcycle, go up in a skyscraper, attend an American wedding, see the Bridges of Madison County, and visit the Pella Tulip Festival. They also were in Washington, DC for the American Library Association's National Legislative Day and toured Chicago on their way home.

"My stay as an intern at the Newton Public Library was really worthwhile," said Maya Petrova. "I saw how libraries function as community information centers. The seminars and meetings I attended helped me to understand the scope and content of



Maya and Rayno have dinner at Mary Wegner's home.

community information, how collections are built, managed and made available to the public.

"I expect us to adopt some of the successful practices in this sphere," said Petrova.

She said it was an honor to be receive a proclamation naming her an honorary citizen of Newton and a letter from the mayor. Special activities included visiting blues clubs in Des Moines and Chicago and going to a Slip-knot concert.

"I was amazed by the atmosphere of brotherhood at a black Baptist church we visited. Most of all, I appreciated the natural attitude and friendliness of all the people I met, and whom I can call friends now," said Petrova.

Stephanie Schulte works for the Cedar Rapids Public Library and was a host to Mariana Uzunova. She said that having Mariana in the library brought the staff together and there were several chances to meet as a group and talk with her about life in Bulgaria.

"Mariana was very friendly and very interested in every aspect of library work," said Schulte. "She often commented that she was the ambassador for her library and she was excellent in that aspect.

"Mariana was full of life and always willing to try different activities, food, and situations. She even made two meals so we could get a taste of her foods," said Schulte.



At the Pella Tulip Festival, from left, Maya Petrova; Wendy Street, Pella Public Library Director; Rayno Raynov; Mariana Uzunova, Daniela Donova and Galina Doycheva-Viktorova.

instantly bonded not just as librarians, but as women.

"What we found is what all true friends find -- that your similarities, your approach to life, your sense of humor, the things you care most about -- transcend country, language and custom. We had so much fun together," said Millsap.

"Galina's excitement about what she was learning and, in turn, what she shared with me about how they do things at the Varna Library was infectious. It reminded me of why I became a librarian and why I wanted to be a director. Bulgarian libraries are facing tremendous challenges, including limited resources, creating a whole new identity for public libraries, building an expanded relationship with their users and bringing in new users. They are committed to making that happen. It was humbling and inspirational and put our own challenges in perspective," said Millsap.

The Iowa Resource for International Service (IRIS) received a grant to develop partnerships between libraries in Bulgaria, Colorado and Iowa. It builds on the successful Partner Library Project between Bulgarian and Colorado libraries. Begun in 1996, there are now 10 public library partnerships.

Click [here](#) to see more photos of the Bulgarian librarians in Iowa.



Mariana Uzunova and George Schulte at the Pella Tulip Festival. George and his wife, Stephanie, were Mariana's hosts in Cedar Rapids.

Rayno Raynov is now back in Bulgaria busy with his library's summer reading program. "I have to admit, I miss so many of the people {in Iowa}," he said.

"I learned a lot about the American lifestyle and have a new opinion of it. I also learned more about summer reading programs, the treatment of disabled people, book drops and so many other things," said Raynov.

Wendy Street, director of the Pella Public Library, said Raynov sent her an e-mail shortly after returning to Bulgaria and shared an experience he had at home.

"He was walking down the street and accidentally bumped into an older woman and said 'excuse me' in English. He received a 'very strange' look in return," said Street.

"The most interesting conversation I had with Rayno was about politics in Bulgaria. They have literally thousands of political parties," said Street.

Gina Millsap, director of the Ames Public Library, hosted Galina Doycheva-Viktorova and said the two

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Standards Committee releases draft of recommendations

The State Library and the State Library Standards Advisory Task Force have completed a draft of the 4th edition of *In Service to Iowa*. There are 75 standards, of which 14 are new and another 23 are substantially revised. Information sessions on the revised standards will be held on the ICN from 6 to 8 p.m. July 12 and from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. July 13.

The draft of the 4th edition of *In Service to Iowa* and a list of ICN sites is on the State Library's web site at <http://www.silo.lib.ia.us/for-ia-libraries/accr-and-standards/index.html>.

Iowa's voluntary public library standards program was established in 1985 to give public libraries a tool for identifying strengths and areas for improvement, to document the condition of public library service in Iowa and to meet statutory requirements.

In 2003, the Task Force was appointed by the Iowa Commission of Libraries to revise *In Service to Iowa*. Revision was needed to: 1) recognize the impact of technology, especially the Internet; 2) base quantitative standards on Iowa-specific statistics; 3) provide additional explanation; and 4) update the administrative components of the standards program.

Comments and questions about the revised standards should be sent to Gerry Rowland, State Library, (515) 281-7573; 1-800-248-4483; gerry.rowland@lib.state.ia.us.

Gates training scheduled for this fall

The State Library has scheduled Gates computer training for Iowa librarians in September, October and November. Each of the classes is limited to 25 people and initial registration will be limited to one person per library. If room is available, a second person from the same library may attend.

There will be two days of classes in each Library Service Area. The first day will offer the same program (Teaching Computers to the Public) twice from 9 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 4 p.m. The second day will provide a morning session (Troubleshooting Computers) from 9 a.m. to noon and an afternoon session (Computer Security) from 1 to 4 p.m.

Registration forms are available at <http://www.silo.lib.ia.us/for-ia-libraries/continuing-ed/cecat.htm#September>.

Classes will be held in the following locations:

Central Iowa Library Service Area - West Des Moines Public Library - Monday, Sept. 27 and Tuesday, Sept. 28

Southwest Iowa Library Service Area - Southwest Iowa Community College, Creston - Thursday, Sept. 30 and Friday, Oct. 1

North Central Library Service Area - Belmond Public Library - Monday, Oct. 18 and Tuesday, Oct. 19

Northeast Iowa Library Service Area - Fayette Public Library - Thursday, Oct. 21 and Friday, Oct. 22

East Central Library Services - Iowa City Public Library - Monday, Oct. 25 and Tuesday, Oct. 26

Southeastern Library Services - Fairfield Public Library - Thursday, Oct. 28 and Friday, Oct. 29

Northwest Iowa Library Services - Denison Public Library - Monday, Nov. 8 and Tuesday, Nov. 9

Northwest Iowa Library Services - Spencer Public Library - Thursday, Nov. 11 and Friday, Nov. 12

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Commission appoints, certifies trustees to LSA boards

On June 1, the Iowa Commission of Libraries appointed and certified trustees to the seven Library Service Area Boards. All are four year terms.

The Commission appointed:

- Frank E. Ross, Newton, new appointment to Central Iowa Library Service Area
- Robert George, Anamosa, reappointment to East Central Library Services
- Janet Adams, Webster City, reappointment to North Central Library Service Area
- Timothy Jones, Waterloo, reappointment to Northeast Iowa Library Service Area
- David Netz, Sioux Center, reappointment to Northwest Iowa Library Services
- Nancy Simpson, Oskaloosa, reappointment to Southeastern Library Services
- James Mefferd, Chariton, reappointment to Southwest Iowa Library Service Area

The Commission certified the following public library trustee representatives:

- Joseph (Hank) Zalatel, Jr. (Nevada), trustee, Nevada Public Library, re-elected to Central Iowa Library Service Area
- Eileen Robinson, (Marion), trustee, Marion Public Library, re-elected to East Central Library Services
- Patricia Ginapp (Garner), trustee, Garner Public Library, new to North Central Library Service Area
- Richard Barnes (Clermont), trustee, Clermont Public Library, new to Northeast Iowa Library Service Area
- Darrell G. DeBoom (Primghar), trustee, Primghar Public Library, re-elected to Northwest Iowa Library Services
- Thomas P. Gardner (Keokuk), trustee, Keokuk Public Library, re-elected to Southeastern Library Services
- Lillian Nichols (Bridgewater), trustee, Fontanelle Public Library, re-elected to Southwest Iowa Library Service Area

State Library staffer inducted into international society

Cory Quist of the State Library's law library was recently inducted into the Beta Rho chapter of Beta Pi Mu, the International Library and Information Studies Honor Society. Quist received his master's degree in library and information science from the University of Wisconsin last December.



Important Dates - 2004

June

June 24-30 - ALA Annual Conference, Orlando, FL
June 30 - Direct State Aid funds expended

July

July 1 - New year for EBSCOhost begins
July 1 - E-rate discounts for 2004 begin
July 5 - Fourth of July holiday observed
(State Library closed)
July 23 - Applications due for Public Library
Management I and II
July 31 - Final reports due at the State Library for
Direct State Aid, Open Access and
Access Plus

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2004 Westgate Lecture attracts hundreds of librarians, teachers



Westgate conference organizers, from left, Deb Samson, Department of Education; Penny Milburn, Iowa State University Extension Outreach; Mary Schertz, Bureau of Children, Families and Community Services; Dena Goplerud, Iowa Public Television; and Mary Cameron, State Library of Iowa. (Not shown, Tom Rendon, Iowa Head Start State Collaboration Office).



From left, State Librarian Mary Wegner, keynote speaker Barbara Moss and State Library Youth Services Consultant Mary Cameron.

The 2004 Westgate Lecture, "Building Blocks to Early Literacy," was held April 14 and 15 in Johnston. Nearly 350 people attended. On the 14th, keynote speaker Barbara Moss provided a workshop on selecting and using nonfiction with children. On the 15th, participants were offered a series of breakout sessions. The State Library co-sponsored the conference with the Iowa Department of Education and Iowa Public Television.

The Westgate Lecture series honors the late Hazel Westgate who was the children's librarian at Iowa City Public Library for many years. Additional support for the biennial event is provided by the Iowa Library Association's Children and Young People's Forum.



State Library staff helped register participants. From left, Carol Simmons, Fran Fessler and Lisa Manley.

The conference room was packed for keynote speaker Barbara Moss' presentation.



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All Iowa Reads Discussions All Over Decorah

Everyone's reading it. Are you? Tiffany Betts, AmeriCorps VISTA member, Carol Tebbenoff, Kathy Barloon, Karisa Jensen and Jorge Chavez are all reading the 2004 All Iowa Reads selection, *Niagara Falls All Over Again*, with Tany Bertz, seated. The book discussion event took place at the Decorah Public Library in April.



Certification update

Congratulations to the following public library staff certified for the first time through the State Library's Iowa Certification Program for Public Librarians.

Jill Edgerton, Indianola
Kristy Folsom, Manchester
Larry Koeninger, Fort Dodge
Susan Mast, Mt. Pleasant
Kasandra Petersen, Huxley
Marcia Pitzenberger, New Hampton
Karen Smith, Urbandale

Iowa Teen Award winner announced, next year's nominations named

The 2003-04 Iowa Teen Award, sponsored by the Iowa Association of School Librarians, is *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants*. Eighty-six Iowa schools participated in the contest. Next Year's nominations include:

- *Counterfeit Son* by Elaine Marie Alphin
- *Forgotten Fire* by Adam Bagdasarian
- *Things Not Seen* by Andrew Clements
- *Artemis Fowl* by Eoin Colfer
- *Dovey Coe* by Frances O'Roark Dowell
- *The Thief Lord* by Cornelia Funke
- *Pictures of Hollis Woods* by Patricia Reilly Giff
- *Stormbreaker* by Anthony Horowitz
- *Lake of Secrets* by Lael Littke
- *Girlhearts* by Norma Fox Mazer
- *Big Mouth and Ugly Girl* by Joyce Carol Oates
- *Zach's Lie*, by Roland Smith
- *The Gospel According to Larry* by Janet Tashjian
- *Stuck in Neutral* by Terry Trueman
- *The Gadget* by Paul Zindel

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Iowa Commission of Libraries - Minutes April 20, 2004 - State Library of Iowa

Present: David Boyd, Monica Gohlinghorst, Pam Pfitzenmaier, Paul Roberts, Dale Ross, Berta Van Ekeren.

Absent: Pam Bradley, Eldon Huston

Staff: Mary Wegner, Barbara Corson, Steve Cox, Sandy Dixon, Fran Fessler, Judy Jones, Gerry Rowland, Annette Wetteland.

Visitors: Emily Navarre, Administrator, Southeastern Library Services; and Katherine Von Wald, Coordinator, Iowa Center for the Book.

1.0 Set Agenda

A. Agenda was set with the following addition.

6.0 Action Item

1. Ross requested the change of meeting dates for June and October be added. Approved.

2.0 Minutes

Gohlinghorst moved to approve the minutes as presented; Roberts seconded. Motion carried.

3.0 Financial Report

Cox reported that both federal and state budgets were on track. There will be no new state money for FY05 and any salary increases will have to be absorbed from the State Library budget. RIIF (infrastructure) funding remains at \$600,000. Wegner and Cox met with Ted Stilwill, Roger Stirlor and others from internal operations at the Department of Education to discuss federal library funding and overhead and administrative costs. There will be further discussion on how these costs will apply to the Gates Grants.

4.0 Communications

A. Special Reports

1. Beth Henning-State Data Center

Henning gave a brief history and explained the role of the State Data Center. The State Data Center became a part of the State Library in 1989 and is Iowa's liaison to the U.S. Census Bureau. It is Iowa's official source for census statistics about Iowa's people, housing, economy, and government. In recent years, the role of the Data Center has changed, as well as how the information is used. Governmental agencies (state, city, county), businesses, the news media and other organizations, want much more detailed information for annual estimates, program planning, marketing, community, and school issues. The State Data Center web site provides a wealth of information and last year had approximately 500,000 page requests.

2. Katherine Von Wald-Iowa Center for the Book

Von Wald provided handouts listing the Iowa winners in the Letters about Literature contest. There were three winners in each of three age groups. First Lady Christie Vilsack presented the awards at the Iowa Reading Association/Iowa Association of School Librarians Conference. The Iowa winner in each age group placed in the top six nationally. The students' letters are on the Center for the Book web site. On May 2, 2004 *USA Today* will list the winners from each state.

There have been 33 All Iowa Reads book discussions so far this year featuring the 2004 selection "*Niagara Falls All Over Again*" by Elizabeth McCracken. McCracken will be the featured Friday luncheon speaker at the Iowa Library Association Fall Conference, and the 2005 All Iowa Reads selection will also be announced at the luncheon.

New literary events continue to be posted on the Literary Calendar, which is part of the Center for the Book web site.

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B. Commission Reports

Boyd reported that May 1 is Law Day and the Iowa Supreme Court will celebrate by giving tours of the new judicial building. Law Week is May 3-7. The Supreme and Appeals courts will be in session that week and there will be special ICN sessions for middle and high school students showing oral arguments.

Roberts reported that the Dubuque Area Library Information Consortium will meet on April 29 for a program on public relations. Wetteland will present one of the sessions.

Gohlinghorst has been attending the Library Standards Task Force meetings. There will be one more meeting before a draft is presented to the Commission.

Van Ekeren remarked she has enjoyed being part of the Standards Task Force committee and is very impressed with the willingness and dedication of the committee. Monroe Public Library hopes to move the first part of June into a building the library board purchased and renovated.

Pfitzenmaier said that the online courses being offered to high school students via the ICN are going well. Some of the course offerings are chemistry, physics, and German.

Ross reported he and Wegner will be in Washington D.C. on May 3 and 4 to attend the American Library Association's legislative days and talk with Iowa's congressmen and senators. Pat Coffie, director of the Waverly Public Library and chairperson of the ILA Governmental Affairs Committee, and Kay Weiss, Director of the Burlington Public Library and ILA President will also attend.

C. State Librarian's Report

Wegner reported that State Library staff had received a bid from OCLC to provide all Iowa libraries unlimited access to an Iowa subset of WorldCat; unlimited access to the bibliographic records and holdings in WorldCat; unlimited, ongoing cataloging using any of OCLC's cataloging interfaces in conjunction with WorldCat; unlimited use of OCLC interlibrary loan; and unlimited retrospective batch loading of holdings to OCLC WorldCat. This offer would allow Iowa to move from the Iowa Locator to an OCLC-based statewide catalog. Contracting with OCLC for these services would require a significant investment of new money. State Library staff continues to review the offer and consider alternatives.

Wegner announced the upcoming Iowa Library Association Leadership Institute to be held at Central College in Pella August 3-6. The training will be led by Maureen Sullivan. Applications for the institute will be evaluated next week. An LSTA grant is being used to partially fund the event.

Five librarians from Bulgaria have arrived in Iowa and will spend time at libraries in Ames, Cedar Rapids, Newton, Pella and Sioux City. They will attend a two day conference at the State Library May 10 and 11.

The State Library is celebrating National Library Week, April 19-23. One hundred eighty state employees have signed up for classes on Searching the Internet; EBSCOHost; FirstSearch; the State Data Center; Grant Resources, WestLaw and HealthInfoIowa. Friday, Ross will lead a book discussion on the 2004 All Iowa Reads book "Niagara Falls All Over Again."

Wegner passed out WebJunction handouts. A customized Iowa version of WebJunction is planned to be released in late June. Dixon and Wetteland will receive training later this month.

The "Building Blocks for Early Literacy Conference," sponsored by the State Library, IPTV and the Department of Education was a big success, with approximately 300 librarians, teachers, consultants, child care providers and early literacy specialists attending.

D. Library Service Area Report-Emily Navarre, Southeastern Library Services

Navarre shared with the Commission information about the Southeastern Library Service Area, which covers 15 counties and 53 public libraries. There is a new library, LeClaire Public Library, which was previously a branch of the Scott County Library System. There are many building projects going on, from new libraries to

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(Cont.)

renovations. Navarre also noted there are combined school/public libraries and a combination of libraries and museums in her region. Southeastern partnered with East Central Library Services to host a trustee workshop on April 17. Many small libraries took advantage of an automation offer by Follett Software, and are in the process of converting their records. Southeastern Library Services has a new consultant, Emily Knott, formerly from Illinois, who has a great deal of technology experience. Navarre expressed concerns facing the Iowa Library Service Areas and public libraries, including budget cuts and problems small libraries may be facing in the future, including staff cuts, less technology and fewer hours open. She believes there is an opportunity and need for library trustees to take a more active role in being advocates for the library. Navarre marks her 25th year with the regional and library service area.

5.0 Public Comment

None

6.0 Action Items

A. Appoint nominating committee for Library Service Area (LSA) trustee positions

Dixon provided some background on electing trustees to the Library Service Area boards. The Commission must appoint two of its members to the LSA Boards Nominating Committee. Ross and Roberts were nominated to serve on the committee. Van Ekeren made the motion to approve. Boyd seconded. Motion carried.

B. Certify appointment to Northeast Iowa Library Service Area board

There was a motion by Boyd to certify Karen Davidson, a librarian at Northeast Community College, as a new member of the Northeast LSA board. Roberts seconded. Motion carried.

C. Commission bylaws committee report

Roberts presented the by-laws for review. Discussion followed. Changes were made in Section III. Commission Meetings. (A) "Iowa's Open Meeting Law" would be moved to the end of the sentence after Code of Iowa; (D) "distribute" would replace "ship"; (H) Iowa Open Records Law would be moved to end of sentence after Code of Iowa; (I) Strike out sentence: A decision to cancel a meeting must be made prior to noon of the day preceding the scheduled meeting. Van Ekeren motioned to approve. Gohlinghorst seconded. Motion carried.

D. Date change for June and October meetings

Ross requested that the meeting dates for the June and October meetings be changed. The commission agreed to the following dates: June 1 and October 25, 2004 at 10:00 a.m.

7.0 Discussion Items

A. Commission self-evaluation

Dixon attended a session on library board self-assessment at the recent Public Library Association conference. She handed out a sample agenda and suggested that Commissioners could do something similar at the August retreat. Commissioners agreed and board self-assessment will be part of the agenda for the August retreat.

B. Open Access Program Rules

Wegner handed out a copy of the suggested wording for the Open Access Agreement for the coming year. Ross requested that Shauna Shields from the Attorney General's office review the wording. Wegner will also discuss the terms of the agreement with the Governor's office.

C. Discussion of State Library/Library Service Areas Draft Plan of Service

The draft plan for FY05-06 will be presented to the Commission for approval at its June 2004 meeting.

D. Gates Training Grant

Technology training sessions will begin in September in eight locations around the state. Laptops and a data projector for use during these sessions have already arrived.

8.0 Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: June 1, 2004, State Library of Iowa